ERTAINMENT

Students plan benefit for radio station

By April Tippens

ASST. ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

A group of students sat around a coffee shop discussing a name, trying to create a name for a benefit that would make the world a better place.

After some deliberation, they hoped it would all come together — to congeal.

Congeal it did, and Congeal it is.

Congeal is the benefit concert put together by the Norman Alternative Radio Committee to try to get their radio station in working order.

The Congeal benefit is set for 7 p.m. Thursday in the Oklahoma Memorial Union Ballroom, 900 Asp Ave.

Playing for the event will be bands including The Coma Club, Red Red Groove, Tall Tales and Three Ring Carcass.

Wilken and Lang described Red Red Groove as an industrial dance band from Tulsa.

The Coma Club, Tall Tales and Three Ring Carcass are from Norman.

The committee, formed last spring, is still a relatively small group consisting of about five permanent members.

"We also have people who time and go," said Taylor Wilken, a Chicago sophmore and one of the committee's coordinators.

The committee recently paid for a engineering survey to determine what frequencies are available in the area. The survey turned up 89.3 FM.

However, the start-up costs for the station well exceed the cost of the survey, which cost about \$300.

"We need to raise both start-up costs and one-year's operating expenses," said George Lang, a Jenks junior and future program director.

Wilken estimated the oneyear's operating expenses at \$25,000 to \$30,000.

Since the station will be nonprofit, advertising can not be accepted.

Yet, grants from area businesses will be taken and, like other public stations, mentioned on the air.

Somewhat of the programming will be up to Lang, but both Wilkens and Lang said the disc jockeys would have a large part in selecting the music.

They said surveys could also be used to find out what the student body wants to hear.

"Basically, we would like to stick to a free-form format," Lang said.

"But I want to shy away from the things that are already represented in the Oklahoma City area like classic rock and pop.

"The main thing is to bring out new music — things you may have

heard but didn't hear on the radio," Lang said.

Wilkens said they would like to have a mix show on Friday and Saturday nights so that people can play it during a party.

The committee is hoping to set up 18-hour days for the weekdays and 24-hours a day for the weekends.

A call goes out for prospective disc jockeys and others who would like to be a part of the committee to meet at 5 p.m. Tuesday at 165 OMU.

Wilkens said those interested in disc jockeying will fill out a short questionare and should bring a tape of their voice.

Thursday's benefit concert will be open for all ages and tickets will be sold in advance for \$6.

Tickets can be purchased at Shadowplay Records, any Rainbow Records outlet, Mohawk Music in Tulsa and the Student Union Ticket office. Tickets will be \$7 at the door.

The money raised will go toward beginning the application process for a Federal Communications Commission license.

Colas and \$1 draw beer will be available at the concert. For further information, call 364-1691.